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journal or publication title	大島商船高等専門学校紀要
volume	24
page range	125-129
year	1991-12
URL	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/2298/2970">http://hdl.handle.net/2298/2970</a>

# ON THE NEBENHÜLLE OF AN OPEN SET IN A STEIN MANIFOLD

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## Abstract

Let  $D$  be a relatively compact open set in a Stein manifold. We prove that  $(N(D), D)$  is a Runge pair if and only if  $D$  has Property (N). Such an open set  $D$  has disk property.

## 0. Introduction.

In this paper we revise and generalize the results in the author's [1]. Let  $D$  be a relatively compact open set in a Stein manifold  $X$ . We denote by  $N(D)$  the schlicht Nebenhülle of  $D$ . In section 1 we prove that the following two conditions are equivalent: i)  $(N(D), D)$  is a Runge pair, ii) for any compact set  $K$  in  $D$  there exists a Stein open set  $D'$  in  $X$  such that  $\hat{K}_{D'} \subset D \subseteq D'$ . In section 2 we prove that such an open set  $D$  that  $(N(D), D)$  is a Runge pair has disk property. The converse of this fact does not hold.

## 1. Property (N).

Let  $X$  be a Stein manifold. For every open set  $D$  in  $X$  we denote by  $\mathcal{N}_D$  the family of all Stein open sets in  $X$  containing  $\bar{D}$ . We call the set  $N(D) := (\bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{N}_D} F)^0$  the (schlicht)

Nebenhülle of  $D$ .  $N(D)$  is a Stein open set in  $X$  containing  $D$ . If  $\bar{D} = D$  and  $\bar{D}$  has a Stein neighbourhood basis, then it holds that  $N(D) = D$ .

S. Sato [9] asserts that  $\bar{D}$  has a Stein neighbourhood basis if  $D$  is a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $N(D) = D$  (Proposition 1 of [9]). But his assertion is not true. According to B. Stensønes [10] there exists a domain  $D$  in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  such that  $N(D) = D$  and  $\bar{D}$  does not have a Stein neighbourhood basis.

**PROPOSITION 1.** *If  $D$  is a relatively compact open set in a Stein manifold  $X$ , then  $N(N(D)) = N(D)$ .*

**PROOF.** Since we can prove that  $\mathcal{N}_{N(D)} = \mathcal{N}_D$ , it holds that  $N(N(D)) = N(D)$ .

Let  $D'$  and  $D''$  be open sets in a complex manifold  $X$  such that  $D'$  has a countable topology and  $D'' \subset D'$ .  $(D', D'')$  is called a *Runge pair* if the image of the restriction map  $\mathcal{O}(D') \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(D'')$  is dense in  $\mathcal{O}(D'')$ . As is well-known  $(D', D'')$  is a Runge pair of Stein open sets if and only if  $\hat{K}_{D''} = \hat{K}_{D'}$  for any compact set  $K$  in  $D''$ .

PROPOSITION 2. *The following two conditions are equivalent for any open set  $D$  in a complex manifold  $X$ .*

- i) *For any compact set  $K \subset D$  there exists a Stein open set  $D'$  in  $X$  such that  $\bar{D} \subset D'$  and  $\hat{K}_{D'} \subset D$ .*
- ii) *For any compact set  $K \subset D$  there exists a Runge pair  $(D', D'')$  of Stein open sets in  $X$  such that  $\bar{D} \subset D'$  and  $K \subset D'' \subset D$ .*

PROOF. i)  $\rightarrow$  ii). We can find an analytic polyhedron  $D''$  in  $D'$  such that  $\hat{K}_{D'} \subset D'' \subset D$ . Then  $(D', D'')$  is a Runge pair (see [7], p. 295).

ii)  $\rightarrow$  i). Since  $(D', D'')$  is a Runge pair of Stein open sets,  $\hat{K}_{D'} = \hat{K}_{D''} \subset D'' \subset D$ .

As in [1] we say that an open set  $D$  in a complex manifold  $X$  has *Property (N)* if one of the equivalent conditions in Proposition 2 is satisfied. Such an open set is necessarily a Stein open set. Moreover we have the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 3. *Let  $D$  be an open set in a complex manifold  $X$ . If  $D$  has Property (N), then for any compact set  $K \subset D$  it holds that  $\hat{K}_D = \{x \in \bar{D} \mid |f(x)| \leq \|f\|_K \text{ for all } f \in \mathcal{O}(\bar{D})\}$ . Especially such an open set  $D$  is convex with respect to  $\mathcal{O}(\bar{D})$ .*

PROOF. There exists a Runge Pair  $(D', D'')$  of Stein open sets such that  $\bar{D} \subset D'$  and  $K \subset D'' \subset D$ . It holds that  $\hat{K}_{D''} = \hat{K}_D = \hat{K}_{D'}$ . Let  $L := \{x \in \bar{D} \mid |f(x)| \leq \|f\|_K \text{ for all } f \in \mathcal{O}(\bar{D})\}$ . Since  $\mathcal{O}(D') \subset \mathcal{O}(\bar{D})$ ,  $L \subset \hat{K}_{D'}$ . Since  $\mathcal{O}(\bar{D}) \subset \mathcal{O}(D'')$ ,  $\hat{K}_{D''} \subset L$ . It follows that  $L = \hat{K}_D$ .

LEMMA 4. *Let  $D$  be a relatively compact open set in a Stein manifold  $X$ . If  $N(D) = D$ , then  $D$  has Property (N).*

PROOF. By Remmert's embedding theorem [8] we may assume that  $X$  is a closed complex submanifold of some  $\mathbf{C}^N$ . Then by a theorem of F. Docquier and H. Grauert [4] there exist a Stein neighbourhood  $V$  of  $X$  and a holomorphic retraction  $\rho : V \rightarrow X$  (see [5], p.257). Let  $K$  be an arbitrary compact set in  $D$ . Let  $\varepsilon := d(K, \mathbf{C}^N - \rho^{-1}(D))$ , then  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Here we denote by  $d$  the ordinary Euclidean distance of  $\mathbf{C}^N$ . Since  $L := \bigcap_{F \in N_D} F$  is a compact set in  $X$ , there exist finitely many points  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_l \in L - D$  such that  $L - D \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^l (X \cap B(p_j, \varepsilon/2))$ , where  $B(p_j, \varepsilon/2) = \{x \in \mathbf{C}^N \mid d(x, p_j) < \varepsilon/2\}$ . Since the interior of  $L$  in  $X$  equals to  $D$ , there exists  $q_j \in X \cap B(p_j, \varepsilon/2) - L$  for each  $j$ .  $E := D \cup (\bigcup_{j=1}^l (X \cap B(p_j, \varepsilon/2))) - \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_l\}$  is a relatively compact open set in  $X$  containing  $L$ . For every  $r \in \partial E$  there exists  $F_r \in \mathcal{N}_D$  such that  $r \notin F_r$ . There exists a Stein open set  $F_r'$  in  $X$  such that  $\bar{D} \subset F_r' \subset F_r$ . Since  $\partial E$  is compact, there

exist finitely many  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_s \in \partial E$  such that  $\partial E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^s (X - \bar{F}'_{r_j})$ . Then  $G := (\bigcap_{j=1}^s F'_{r_j}) \cap E$  is a Stein open set containing  $\bar{D}$ . Suppose that there exist  $p \in \hat{K}_G - D$ .

Since  $p \in E - D$ , it holds that  $d(p, q_j) < d(p, p_j) + d(p_j, q_j) < \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/2 = \varepsilon$  for some  $j$ .  $\rho(q_j) = q_j \in G$ . Thus  $d(p, \mathbf{C}^N - \rho^{-1}(G)) < \varepsilon$ . We can prove that  $\rho^{-1}(G)$  is a Stein open set in  $\mathbf{C}^N$  (see the proof Theorem 4 of J. Kajiwaru [6]).

Therefore  $d(\hat{K}_{\rho^{-1}(G)}, \mathbf{C}^N - \rho^{-1}(G)) = d(K, \mathbf{C}^N - \rho^{-1}(G)) \geq \varepsilon$ . Since  $\hat{K}_G \subset \hat{K}_{\rho^{-1}(G)}$ ,

it holds that  $d(\hat{K}_G, \mathbf{C}^N - \rho^{-1}(G)) \geq d(\hat{K}_{\rho^{-1}(G)}, \mathbf{C}^N - \rho^{-1}(G)) \geq \varepsilon$ .

Thus  $d(p, \mathbf{C}^N - \rho^{-1}(G)) \geq d(\hat{K}_G, \mathbf{C}^N - \rho^{-1}(G)) \geq \varepsilon$ . It is a contradiction.

It follows that  $\hat{K}_G \subset D$ .

The converse of the above lemma does not hold. For example consider the bounded domain  $D := \{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid |t| < 1\} - [0, 1)$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ . It holds that  $N(D) = \{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid |t| < 1\} \neq D$ . Since  $D$  is simply connected, the image of the restriction map  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(D)$  is dense in  $\mathcal{O}(D)$  by Runge's theorem. Therefore for any compact set  $K$  in  $D$ , it holds that  $\hat{K}_D \subset D$ . It follows that  $D$  has Property (N).

Here we prove the following theorem which is a generalization of Lemma 4.

**THEOREM 5.** *The following two conditions are equivalent for any relatively compact open set  $D$  in a Stein manifold  $X$ .*

- i)  $(N(D), D)$  is a Runge pair.
- ii)  $D$  has Property (N).

**PROOF.** i)  $\rightarrow$  ii). Let  $K$  be an arbitrary compact set in  $D$ . By assumption  $\hat{K}_D = \hat{K}_{N(D)}$ . By Proposition 1 and Lemma 4  $N(D)$  has property (N). There exists a Runge pair  $(D', D'')$  of Stein open sets such that  $K \subset D'' \subset N(D) \subset D' \subset D$ . Then we have that  $\hat{K}_{D''} = \hat{K}_{N(D)} = \hat{K}_D$ . It follows that  $\hat{K}_{D'} = \hat{K}_D \subset D \subset D'$ .

ii)  $\rightarrow$  i). Let  $K$  be an arbitrary compact set in  $D$ . By assumption there exists a Runge pair  $(D', D'')$  of Stein open sets such that  $K \subset D'' \subset D \subset D' \subset D$ . Then we have that  $\hat{K}_{D''} = \hat{K}_D = \hat{K}_{D'}$ . Since  $D \subset N(D) \subset D'$ , it holds that  $\hat{K}_D \subset \hat{K}_{N(D)} \subset \hat{K}_{D'}$ . Therefore  $\hat{K}_D = \hat{K}_{N(D)}$ . It follows that  $(N(D), D)$  is a Runge pair of Stein open sets.

## 2. Disk property.

Let  $\mathcal{A} := \{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid |t| < 1\}$ . Let  $X$  be a complex manifold and  $D$  an open set in  $X$ . As in [1] we say that  $D$  has *disk property* if it satisfies the condition that if  $\psi: \bar{\mathcal{A}} \rightarrow X$  is a continuous map holomorphic in  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\psi(\bar{\mathcal{A}}) \subset \bar{D}$  and  $\psi(\partial \mathcal{A}) \subset D$ , then  $\psi(\bar{\mathcal{A}}) \subset D$ . If  $X$  is a Stein manifold and  $D$  has disk property, then

we can prove that  $D$  is  $p_\gamma$ -convex in the sense of F. Docquier and H. Grauert [4], therefore  $D$  is a Stein open set. The converse is not true. For example the set  $\{(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N) \in \mathbf{C}^N \mid |t_1| < |t_2| < \dots < |t_N| < 1\}$  is a Stein open set in  $\mathbf{C}^N$  which does not have disk property (see [1], p.184). We remark that if  $D$  is a locally Stein open set with  $C^1$ -smooth boundary in a complex manifold  $X$ , then  $D$  has disk property. We can prove this fact using the Bremermann's continuity theorem (schlicht version of Proposition 3 of the author's [2]).

**PROPOSITION 6.** *Let  $D$  be an open set in a complex manifold  $X$ . If  $D$  has Property (N), then  $D$  has disk property.*

**PROOF.** Let  $\psi: \bar{A} \rightarrow X$  be a continuous map holomorphic in  $A$  such that  $\psi(\bar{A}) \subset \bar{D}$  and  $\psi(\partial A) \subset D$ . Since  $\psi(\partial A) \subset D$  and  $\psi$  is continuous, there exists a number  $r$  such that  $0 < r < 1$  and  $\psi(\{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid r \leq |t| \leq 1\}) \subset D$ .  $\psi(\{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid |t| = r\})$  is a compact set contained in  $D$ . By hypothesis there exists a Stein open set  $D'$  such that  $\bar{D} \subset D'$  and  $\psi(\{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid |t| = r\}) \hat{\subset}_D D$ .  $\psi|_A: A \rightarrow D'$  is a holomorphic map.  $\psi(\{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid |t| \leq r\}) = \psi(\{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid |t| = r\}) \hat{\subset}_D \psi(\{t \in \mathbf{C} \mid |t| = r\}) \hat{\subset}_D D$  (Lemma 3 of [1]). Thus we obtain that  $\psi(A) \subset D$ .

**THEOREM 7.** *Let  $D$  be a relatively compact open set in a Stein manifold  $X$ . If  $(N(D), D)$  is a Runge pair, then  $D$  has disk property.*

**PROOF.** By Theorem 5 and Proposition 6.

The converse of this theorem does not hold. We can prove that the bounded domain  $\mathcal{Q}_r$  in K. Diederich and J. E. Fornaess [3] does not have Property (N) if  $r > \exp(2\pi)$ . Therefore  $(N(\mathcal{Q}_r), \mathcal{Q}_r)$  is not a Runge pair if  $r > \exp(2\pi)$ . But  $\mathcal{Q}_r$  has disk property, since it is a Stein domain in  $\mathbf{C}^2$  with  $C^\infty$ -smooth boundary.

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